

♦The Lamoine Quarterly♦

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Town Meeting Approves Tax Cap Increase, Budget, Rejects Land Sale

(Lamoine) — Lamoine's annual open town meeting saw voters turn out in high numbers despite the lack of any major controversy on the ballot. When the 3-hour meeting ended 35 of the 35 articles on the open portion of the warrant passed in one fashion or another. A proposed sale of 12-acres of land failed, and the article that followed, to put the proceeds of the sale into a capital reserve fund, was rendered moot.

Land Sale

The land sale was proposed by Doug Gott &



Making A Point

Assessor Jane Fowler addressed the annual town meeting, asking about cemetery care. Nearly 150 voters attended the meeting.

Sons, Inc., which owns land behind the transfer station and landfill and operates a gravel pit on both sides of the strip of land they had proposed to purchase for \$75,000. Selectmen were told the gravel on the town strip had been removed already by Gott under a previous contract with the town. Gott indicated it wanted to use the land for storage of gravel products removed from the back land owned by another company but mined by Gott under contract.

Voters argued that the town should not be selling any land, and perhaps there was more gravel available on the acreage proposed for sale. Others said holding onto the strip could help force restoration efforts should that need to happen. At the end of the debate the vote was overwhelmingly against selling the land. Selectmen will suggest to the company that maybe a lease would be in order—something Gott had originally proposed.

Parks Ordinance

Significant changes to the Parks Ordinance were approved by the town meeting. The original ordinance was passed the previous year, establishing the Parks Commission which spent much of its first year reviewing

the ordinance. The change that generated the largest amount of debate involved banning vehicles from the beaches outside the boat launch areas. Marlboro Beach users expressed concern that they would be barred from driving to the water to launch kayaks. Parks commission members assured that because Marlboro Beach has no designated boat ramp that such vehicle use would be allowed.

The Budget

Voters approved some increases in the budget beyond what the Budget Committee recommended. One social service agency was added (Down East AIDS Network \$600), the Parks Budget was increased to the amount requested by the Parks Committee, (\$3,124 more) and the amount paid to the Ellsworth Library more than doubled from the recommendation to the amount requested (\$3,335 more). Voters also approved removing \$1,600 of Parks Fund money used to offset taxes, for a tax impact of an additional \$8,659

LD-1 Override

The final article of town meeting required a written vote to increase the municipal tax commitment cap, currently set at zero. After a presentation by Administrative Assistant Stu Marckoon explaining the cap and override process, those voters who remained for the entire meeting overwhelmingly approved of the override. Marckoon estimated that the tax rate will still fall slightly in 2006.



At the Meeting

(Left) - Moderator Harvey Kelley presided over the annual town meeting. Kelley has run many Lamoine Town Meetings over the past 20-years.

(Right) Parks Commission Member Kerry Galeaz addresses concerns from summer resident Benji Grant (holding paper) about the access issues at Marlboro Beach as the town meeting listens to the debate.

(Photos from Lamoine CTV)



Voters Return Cooper, Jones As Selectmen

(Lamoine) — In most towns the annual election of municipal officers is lucky to draw 10-percent of the registered voters. Not Lamoine! A 31-percent turnout brought 420-voters to the polls on March 7th at the end of a well debated campaign. Winning election as Selectmen were Jo Cooper and Brett Jones, the two incumbents who ran for re-election. Cooper finished with 310 votes (74%) and Jones with 254 (60%). Challenger and former Selectman Richard Davis pulled in 151 (36%) votes and Robert Sharkey, the town's deputy plumbing inspector, gathered support from 56 people (13%).

Colene Sharkey, who ran unopposed, was easily re-elected as a Tax Assessor with 305 votes.

The school committee has two new faces, with all the candidates running unopposed and winning election. Tammy Dickey was re-elected to fill a seat vacated by Linda Haft who moved away from town last year. Robert Pulver won a two year seat left

open with the resignation of Bonnie Marckoon, who served until the election was complete. Julie Tilden, who filled the 1-year seat until the election opted to run for a 3-year term and was elected along with former teacher Nancy Sargent.

Bus Driver Patricia Murphy ran as a write-in candidate for the two year position, but several people wrote in her name to the other positions as well. Murphy still picked up 48 votes for the 2-year slot.



TV Lauded in Election

(Lamoine) — Many voters had great praise for Lamoine's Cable TV channel's coverage of the town meeting process. Videographer Bill Butler recorded the candidate's night sponsored by the PATRONS organization. Several voters said it helped them decide how to vote.

Election Night vote tallies were posted on the channel which showed a live picture of the ballot clerks counting (no audio), and many said they watched the returns coming in. A live picture during voting helped remind some to cast their ballots.

The open town meeting at the school was recorded by Will Dickey, an 8th grade student making his first CTV effort. Some audio problems in the recording system prevented some of the audience comments made away from the microphones from being heard on the replay the next day.

Poll Watcher

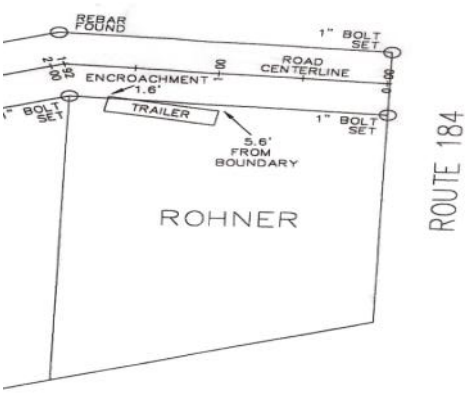
Young Gwenevere Tatara peers out from the booth as her dad, Ben, casts his votes. Election Clerk Kay Bragdon is shown at left.

Town, Developer Agree To Road Move

(Lamoine) - The property line dispute between a subdivision developer and a neighboring property owner continues, but the location of the subdivision road will shift slightly, giving more space between the travel way and a mobile home.

The problem came to light last August when construction started on the subdivision road for Pine Grove Estates. Neighbor Teresa Rohner said the road was within a few feet of her home. The subdivision plan showed the right-of-way was at least 25-feet away from her property line and about 60-feet from the mobile home. However, the plan was apparently in error in regard to the location of the mobile home. A subsequent survey supplied by developer Ronald Simons showed the mobile home encroached on his property by about a foot and a half. The location of the property line remains in dispute and the town is not involved in that.

A notice of violation was issued to Mr. Simons because the road passes too close to an abutting structure (about 10-feet from Ms. Rohner’s back steps). Complicating matters is a common septic system to be utilized by several lots in the subdivision to be located to



The Survey Says....
A survey supplied by developer Ronald Simons shows the right-of-way goes through the neighbor’s trailer.

the north of the subdivision road. Shifting the right-of-way would encroach on that area, possibly rendering the original plan useless. As a compromise the Board of Selectmen offered Mr. Simons a chance to shift the street to the northern edge of the right of way, picking up about 15-feet more setback between the road and the mobile home. The road move was to start by March 15th and be complete by May 15th. A backhoe moved onto the property on March 13th, but mud season has prevented much work from being done immediately.

In addition to moving the road, the consent agreement will have Mr. Simons plant

No Violation Found At Stump Grinder

(Lamoine) — Stumps and trees piled at the yet to be constructed site for a stump grinding operation by Doug Gott & Sons do not violate the Site Plan Review Permit granted by the Planning Board and Board of Appeals. A Planning Board member raised the issue to Code Enforcement Officer Dennis Ford as one condition of the operation was that materials would be stored for no longer than 4-months.

CEO Ford found that the stump grinding compound located behind Gott’s gravel pits between Mill and Lamoine Beach Roads had not yet been constructed. The operation was supposed to have a baseline water test done before operations start. An agent for Gott said the test was done and the result would be supplied to the town. He said Gott has also ordered the periodic testing start immediately. Gott has indicated construction of the grinding area should start this spring.

New Gravel Pit Proposed

(Lamoine) — The Lamoine Planning Board has received application for a new gravel extraction operation, and they won’t have to travel far to do a site visit—it’s right next to the Town Hall.

Selectman Perry Fowler has purchased the property adjacent to the town hall lot, and proposes to turn it into a gravel pit. He has

submitted a Site Plan Review application which will receive a completeness review at the April Planning Board meeting.

In addition to the one-time Site Plan permit, Fowler would also be required to obtain a Gravel Extraction Permit, renewable every three years. That application has not yet come in. Fowler says his plan is to restore the pit area with Christmas trees and keep the area producing an income once the gravel is removed. Planning Board members planned to get a tour of the area in late March.

Board Revamping Shoreland Code

(Lamoine) — Lamoine’s Planning Board is working to bring the town’s Shoreland Zoning Ordinance up to date with state standards. An informational flyer was handed out at the annual open town meeting explaining the process the board will use, and giving the public notice that action is likely in the near future on the revised ordinance.

The present Shoreland Zoning Ordinance was adopted in 1993 and has not been revised in the past 13-years. The final ordinance proposal has yet to be developed, though several draft changes have been approved. The board has split up its work of comparing the present ordinance to the new state model, and coming up with the language changes required to bring Lamoine’s ordinance in line.

The table of land uses has been completely revamped, though few new restrictions are proposed. No final date has been set for hearings and/or adoption.

Violation Notices Issued

(Lamoine) — Code Enforcement Officer Dennis Ford has issued a pair of violation notices for building without a permit.

A self-reported violation came from the James Tweedie property on Meadow Point Road. Mr. Tweedie and his daughter tore down an existing, non-conforming log cabin and replaced it with a smaller cabin. Replacement of non-conforming structures within the Shoreland zone requires a permit from the Planning Board. The Selectmen will negotiate a consent agreement with the Tweedies who will also apply to the Planning Board for a permit.

The other violation came following a complaint of sign placement at the head of Woodcock Lane, apparently by the Partridge Cove Association. The sign advises that the lane is a private road. The Building and Land Use Ordinance requires a permit for sign placement, and review by the Road Commissioner or, in this case, the Maine Department of Transportation.

Lobster Pound Case Finally Over

(Lamoine) — The Lamoine Board of Appeals has put the finishing touch on one of the longest appeals in the town’s history. Fences constructed to enclose the refrigerators and generator at the Seal Point Lobster Pound received final approval in late January as meeting a modified requirement for noise abatement.

The Lobster Pound case dates back to 2002 when owners Anthony and Josette Pettegrow constructed a large parking area in front of the existing lobster pound and finished a building project begun by the previous

Planning Board Approves Lot Split

(Lamoine) — The Lamoine Planning Board approved what amounts to a four lot subdivision off Woodcock Lane on land belonging to Toby Stephenson and Andrea Perry. The Ellsworth couple had previously sold one lot of their land, and proposed dividing the remainder into three parcels within less than five years of the original sale.

The Planning Board held a public hearing on March 13, 2006 and received no comments opposing the subdivision plan. One lot will have an entrance along Mud Creek Road, the remaining lots will use an existing entrance along Woodcock Lane. The Planning Board did urge the developers to work with the Partridge Cove Association in coming to some agreement on sharing maintenance costs on Woodcock Lane, the main entrance to the Partridge Cove Subdivision.

The size of the subdivision does not require a fire hydrant and tank, but the Fire Chief urged the developer to explore that possibility.

owners. Neighbors objected to the increased truck traffic and filed an appeal because the parking area had not received a Shoreland or Site Plan Review permit from the Planning Board.

After paying a fine, the Pettegrows obtained both permits, but the neighbors filed an appeal over issuance. The Board of Appeals found the granting of both permits was proper, but added the noise reduction and testing conditions. The pound owners found total enclosure would not work and asked for the compromise on fencing.

Property Tax Rate Decrease Likely for 2006

(Lamoine) - If all goes well, the property tax rate in Lamoine should decrease by nearly 4-percent when tax bills go out next August. The decrease comes despite an overall budget increase approved by the annual town meeting (see page 1).

Several factors go into the projected tax rate decrease, but the two major parts are a decreased property tax need for education and increased valuation.

The overall town budget for 2006/07 grew by approximately \$40,000, or 1.47%. School funding from the State grew by over

\$95,000 or 18%. The municipal tax need is roughly \$39,000, and the county tax increase was only \$10, for a net property tax decrease of about \$56,000!

The other factor is municipal valuation. Using a figure of \$231-million for taxable value, the mill rate works out to just about 7-mills. It's likely that the valuation will be a bit higher than this conservative estimate, possibly as high as \$236-million, depending on the amount of new construction picked up by the Board of Assessors. In past years the valuation has averaged about a 3% growth.

Policies Proposed to Selectmen

(Lamoine) — Lamoine's Board of Selectmen is contemplating several new policies for the town office. An audit by Maine's State Bureau of Audit last year resulted in several policy suggestions. One expected to be enthusiastically adopted is a quarterly report on excise tax collections. Treasurer Stu Marckoon told the Board that report is very easy to generate and is a good exercise to keep track of excise tax collections. After property taxes and state General Purpose Aid to Education, excise taxes are the biggest revenue source to the municipality. By tracking the amount of tax collected each quarter and comparing it to past years, the Board will have a pretty good idea if collections are where they should be. In communities that experienced fraud, excise tax is generally the target. Lamoine generates over a quarter million dollars in excise tax annually.

Another policy deals with computer security. It puts in writing what the town office staff practices—virus updates, backups, and other measures to help ensure computer data is retrievable.

A policy outlining the current practice of double checking the tax commitment has been referred to the Board of Assessors for review. The policy lays out the confirmation process for correct information on property cards and coordination with the computer generated tax bills.

A multi-faceted financial policy is also up for review. While the state suggested more staff to segregate duties, the budget does not allow for that. The financial policies proposed will help put in writing the practices taken to ensure the safety of and accuracy of accounting for town funds.

Cable TV Company Surveys Areas

(Lamoine) — Adelphia recently surveyed three areas of town that have requested cable TV service, mainly for the availability of high speed Internet. The Seal Point Road, Walker Road and Bar Harbor Highlands Subdivision area were all mapped out by the cable company which is in the process of selling assets to Time-Warner. None of the three was found to have enough density to require cable service. A meeting with company officials to discuss system expansion was postponed until after the merger takes place.

Referendum Vote vs. Open Town Meeting

(Lamoine) — The format for town meeting in Lamoine has remained relatively unchanged for many years. In recent years, though, some have called for having all articles voted by secret ballot referendum, including all budget articles. Figures comparing secret ballot turnout to open town meeting attendance show more people cast ballots at the town hall than attend the open meeting where articles can be discussed and amended prior to voting.

Selectmen Richard Fennelly Jr. said he would favor referendum voting on large ticket items, in excess of \$25,000. Several years ago voters approved, by referendum, an article that requires open ended budget articles on the warrant that could be amended at open town meeting. Referendum budget articles would not be able to be amended, and a change to that provision would likely be needed before all budget articles could be voted on by referendum.

A few communities in Maine have adopted the budget referendum process. Most of them have voting machines to count the ballots cast on election day. With 37 articles on the 2006 town meeting warrant and a turnout of 420 voters, counting by hand would likely take at least 8-hours or possibly longer, so results would not be known for a few days. The other drawback comes if a budget article fails. That leaves funding for the next fiscal year at zero, or would require a special town meeting to come up with a new budget.

The Selectmen are interested in hearing thoughts on the format of town meeting, and what might be done to attract more people to the open town meeting. If you have thoughts on the town meeting process and how to improve it, contact the town hall.

Old Building Permits Located

(Lamoine) — It's good to clean house once in a while—the same holds true in the Town Hall Vault. In an effort to find more space for subdivision and gravel pit files, several folders full of old building permits turned up, ranging from 1974 to 1984.

Since 1993 the town has maintained a useful computer database of building permits. The “new” old permits will be entered into the database, a process that will take a while as map and lot numbers were not routinely captured on the permits.

Stiff State Valuation Increase Likely

(Lamoine) — The Property Tax Division of Maine Revenue Services says the taxable property in Lamoine for 2007 is worth \$228.4 million. The figure represents a 22-percent increase from the 2006 value of \$187.55 million. Last year's factored revaluation played a big roll in the increased state valuation, though the state value is slightly less than the town's taxable value on the books for April 1, 2005.

The state value is based an actual sales data from the previous year, so the 2007 valuation is an interpretation of the sales that took place between April 2004 and March 2005.

The increased value will have some negative impacts on town funding. One is that state education aid is likely to decrease in the 2007/08 budget year as the town's perceived wealth increases in the eyes of the state. The other will be a larger share of the County Tax bill, which all comes from property taxes. The county tax increase ill not be known until early 2007.

The good news is that the state says property values in Lamoine are once again assessed at 100% of market value. The 2006 valuation was approximately 59% of the average sales price. Because of the 100% certified ratio figure, homestead, veterans, and other exemptions for property will once again receive their full credit. When the ratio falls, only a certain amount of those exemptions are granted by law.

Permit Process Relatively Brisk for ‘06

(Lamoine) — The winter weather usually keeps the number of building permits issued during the first quarter relatively low, and activity was decidedly a bit slow this year. CEO Dennis Ford reports the following permits issued since the first of the year:

No.	Name	Project
1	Tilden, Robert	Workshop
2	Dalton, Charles	Enclose Car Port
3	Gleason, Greg	Wood Shed
4	Hann, Eric	Addition
5	Stratton, Barbara	Residence, Garage
6	Hutchins, Jon	Addition
7	Nicholson, Bill	Residence
8	Rauch, Steven	Residence
9	Dane, Mark	Deck

All building permits issued are now posted on line (www.lamoine-me.gov). Additionally, thanks to a request from at least one resident, plumbing permits are also posted on line. Both are updated within a few hours from when the permits are issued.

Any project located within 250-feet of the high water mark requires a Shoreland Zoning Permit in addition to a Building Permit. Any interior plumbing fixtures must obtain an internal plumbing permit prior to installation and inspection. Prior to occupying a residence a certificate of occupancy must be obtained from the Code Enforcement Officer. That certificate means that the Building and Plumbing Inspector has conducted the proper inspections and found them to be in compliance with local codes.

Fresh Water Initiative Under Way At Schools

By Bob Pulver, Lamoine Conservation Commission

(Lamoine) Students from Lamoine have become research assistants for the George Mitchell Center for Environment and Watershed Research at the University of Maine, Orono.

The Mitchell Center researchers, John Peckenham and Teresa Thornton are studying ground water quality in the communities of Lamoine, Ellsworth, and Hancock.

Fifth and sixth grade students in the classrooms of Tim Barlow and Linda Brooks will begin their research on April 13. They will conduct a variety of water quality tests on water samples taken from their homes. The Mitchell Center researchers and volunteers from the Lamoine Conservation Commission

will assist the students with their research.

Students will learn scientific techniques and procedures by being part of a University Research team. The project is long term in nature and will provide Lamoine students with many future opportunities to work with the Mitchell Center.

The results of the tests will be compiled by the students and presented to the Mitchell Center, the town of Lamoine, and the Lamoine Conservation Commission before the end of the school year.

Initial funding for student supplies and teacher training has been provided by a Grant from Healthy Acadia, a Healthy Maine Partnership.

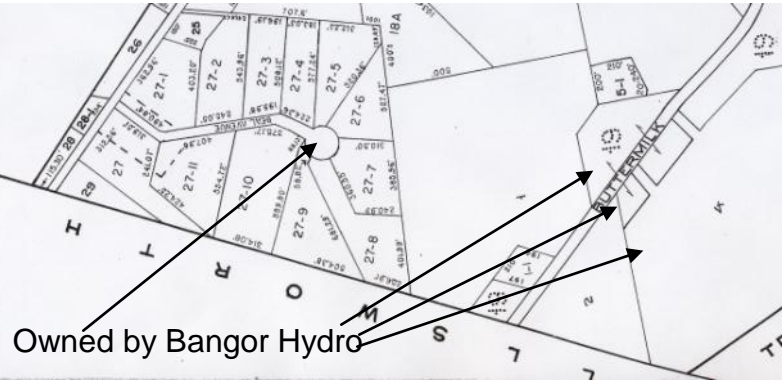
Transmission Line Looks More Likely

(Lamoine) — Bangor Hydro Electric has purchased several Lamoine land parcels in anticipation of a possible major transmission line connecting the Hancock sub-station to Mt. Desert Island. Purchases in the last several months include an entire sub-division on the northwest side of Douglas Highway, a residential lot and home on Buttermilk Road, and a large parcel of vacant land between Buttermilk Road and Route 3.

The utility provided a written update to the Conservation Commission in early March, restating their goals to provide a more stable power source to Mt. Desert Island. The letter said Bangor Hydro is working with individual landowners first to hear about their concerns

before announcing any final proposed route. It said a proposed route is likely to be announced later this year. Once that happens, the utility says it will form a working group to address the many concerns that have already come forward about a new transmission line. Permitting for the project from state, federal and local agencies could take up to a year. Construction should begin in 2008.

Representatives of Bangor Hydro met last fall with the Lamoine Conservation Commission and spoke of the need for another transmission line to MDI. Diesel generators on the island have become very expensive and environmentally unfriendly to operate when there is either too little power coming from the mainland or that circuit is interrupted. The purpose of the transmission line is to eliminate the need for the generators and to provide a stable source of electricity for MDI. Company officials say they're looking at issues in Ellsworth and Trenton as well as Lamoine before finalizing the route for the transmission line. An official said



Making The Puzzle Pieces Fit
The town's tax map shows land between Douglas Hwy & Trenton Bangor Hydro has acquired in recent months.

Conservation Commission News

By Fred Stocking, Chair

(Lamoine) - In April, the Conservation Commission will have an informational presentation on shellfish and safety by Rob Goodwin, scientist at the Department of Marine Resources lab at the Lamoine State Park at our April 12th meeting. A volunteer to put this talk out on cable TV would be appreciated (but if you come in person you get cookies).

We've been seeing new faces, with new energy and issues of concern. We love it and hope that it continues. The Recycling Subcommittee plans to be very active this Summer, and would welcome fresh energy.

We're very open to new projects, if they are presented with an offer to provide time and energy as well. Protecting our inter-tidal zone and identifying key recreational properties in the Town are two projects that are frequently mentioned as things we would like to add to our agenda.

The Get Wet school water testing program is off to a great start, spearheaded by Bob Pulver, and the Conservation Commission is preparing for the annual Roadside Clean-up on May 13th under the able leadership of Georgia Munsell and Lynda Tadema-Wielandt (see related articles on each).

The Conservation would appreciate hearing from folks who may attend meetings of groups with similar interests in the surrounding communities—The Union River Watershed Association, Frenchman Bay Conservancy, Acadia Disposal District, Coastal recycling, and planning boards, conservation commissions or special study groups in neighboring towns. We would love to have you help keep us informed. There's a lot going on in the neighborhood, and who knows where the next great idea for collaboration may come from. The Conservation Commission meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the town hall.

Contractor Hauling Trash, Recycling Remains the Same

(Lamoine) — Pine Tree Waste will continue to be the town's contractor for hauling trash from the Lamoine Transfer Station to the Penobscot Energy Recovery Company in Orrington for the next five years. The company will also haul recyclable materials to Bangor for processing.

The town put the contract, which expires on June 30th, to bid by mailing requests for bids directly to the various competitors in the area. Only three bids came back—Pine Tree Waste, Mark Wright Disposal and Harris Disposal. Pine Tree's bid was significantly lower than the other two companies.

The town is exploring a different way of having Pine Tree take away cardboard. Currently the cardboard is placed into 10-yard dumpsters which the town rents from Pine Tree. They're emptied weekly into the same truck used for several other business cardboard recycling operations. Pine Tree keeps the revenue from the cardboard sales. The initial proposed contract would replace that practice with having Lamoine's cardboard hauled separately with the town paying additional rent for the containers but receiving the recycling revenue. Details on that operation were still under discussion in late March, so no final contract has been signed.

The Lamoine Conservation Commission has been studying the recycling possibilities in town, and suggested that the Selectmen might not want to lock the town into a long-term contract. Among the options the commission is exploring is whether hauling to Coastal Recycling in Hancock might make more sense. Lamoine used to be a member of Coastal, but the dues and the cost to haul from Lamoine to Hancock were more expensive than hauling the material to Bangor for processing and sale.

The proposed contract with Pine Tree contains a provision that allows the town to renegotiate the cost should a different end user be selected. Pine Tree officials say it costs close to the same to haul to Bangor as it would to Hancock because the trucks that pick up the recycling roll-off containers are based in Bangor. The present contract expires on June 30th.

Final Survey Report Released

(Lamoine) - The town's long-range planning committee has released it's analysis on the survey taken in November 2005. The five page report from the committee touches on all the issues polled in the survey distributed to voters an interested property owners on Election Day. The survey was also available on line to fill out.

Copies of the final report are available at the town hall, and it is posted on the town's website (www.lamoine-me.gov). Many folks picked up a copy at the school on Town Meeting night.

The Long Range Committee will next delve into the Comprehensive Plan approved in 1996 to see how things stand 10-years later.

Litter Cleanup Planned For May 13th

(Lamoine) — Save a pair of ratty jeans and last year's sneakers for the annual Lamoine Roadside Litter cleanup. It'll be held on Saturday, May 13th beginning at 8:30 AM at the town hall.

Once again this year Georgia Munsell has graciously agreed to coordinate the event and the volunteers, working with town staff and the Maine Department of Transportation



The 2005 Litter Cleanup...
was quite damp as volunteers gathered at the town hall. Organizer Georgia Munsell is doing a sun dance for this year's date—May 13th at 8:30 AM

Call Volume for Fire Department Continues To Rise

(Lamoine) — The calls for help from the Lamoine Fire Department came fast and furious in January and February. Things slowed a bit in March, though a dry spring is likely to increase the wildfire danger significantly.

Of the 19-calls received in the first quarter, 9 were for trees blown down in several wind storms. None of the trees caused any significant damage except to power lines.

Three motor vehicle accidents were reported, the most serious being a single car crash that pinned Lisa Clark of Lamoine in her jeep. Fire Department personnel used the rescue jaws to cut the door off, freeing Clark who was taken to the hospital but suffered only bruises. Three chimney fire calls came in; none caused any damage. A skidder at a wood cutting operation on Buttermilk Road caught fire. Firefighters put water on it to cool it down. Firefighters helped search for a lost child, who was quickly found at a neighbor's home. And on town meeting evening a Lamoine Beach Road resident called because their kitten was stuck in a tree. The homeowner was advised to put out some food.



to get all the necessary bags and safety items. The town has several orange vests for volunteers.

Munsell will coordinate which volunteers will pick up the many roads in town during the 2-to-3 hour event. Pickup trucks will come by to pick up the full bags of litter to take to the transfer station.

The cleanup helps to really make a difference in how nice the town looks. Though we didn't have much snow this winter to hide the roadside trash, the spring has revealed what looks to be significantly less trash in some places compared to previous years.

Mrs. Munsell says she hopes to help the town better recognize those who graciously volunteer their time this year.

Town Officials begin NIMS Training

(Lamoine) — One of the buzz words around communities for 2006 is NIMS. The acronym stands for National Incident Management System, and if a community expects to qualify for any disaster funding, it must become NIMS compliant.

Selectmen passed a resolve to adopt the NIMS system in late 2005, and several town officials who might play a key role in a disaster began taking the training offered through the Hancock County Emergency Management Agency.

The NIMS system outlines what a town should have in place to deal with most emergencies. Those taking the first round of training included Selectmen Richard Fennelly, Brett Jones and Cynthia Donaldson, Administrator/Asst. Fire Chief Stu Marckoon, and firefighters Joe Young, Mike Jordan, Matt Jordan and Kermit Theall. Several courses must be completed in the next year.

Firefighters Learn First Response/Aid

(Lamoine) — The fire department is better prepared to handle those emergency calls that come with injuries thanks to former resident Crystal (West) Roberts. Several members of the department attended a 6-week course put on by Roberts on basic first responder training.

The course is not intended to place the Lamoine Fire Department into a first responder mode which can greatly increase the number of calls for a department. Instead, members expressed interest in learning how to properly respond to people with injuries at accident scenes and other calls. The idea is to keep victims as stable as possible until County Ambulance crews can arrive from Ellsworth.

Several serious accident in 2005 prompted the request from firefighters for additional first aid training. Roberts said she was impressed by the number of people who participated in the course.

Working Against Time & Gravity
Fire Captain Ed Farnsworth readies the rescue tool to cut the door off a wrecked Jeep to free Lisa Clark of Lamoine. She was not badly hurt in the crash on February 2nd.

“Flat Top 5K” Opens Spring in Lamoine

(Lamoine) — Organizers of a road race in memory of former Harbor Master Bill Pinkham thought they'd get about 50-runners to run 5-kilometers in early April. They were off just a bit—over 250 people turned out to compete and show support for Bill's family. With prizes in numerous age categories awarded, the overall winner of the race was Erik McCarthy of Old Town in a time of 16:53. Susannah Beck of Sedgwick was the fastest woman on the course from Lamoine State Park to the School with a time of 18:02.

The Lamoine Parks Commission contacted runner Robin Emery of Lamoine with the idea after Bill's passing last July 4th. Emery and Tom Kirby of Ellsworth took the reins and put together a great race event. When handing out the prizes to the top finishers, runners applauded for another race next year. More pictures and full results are posted on Lamoine's website.



More than 250 Runners and Walkers turned out for the 1st Flat Top 5K Road Race April 1st.

Town Meeting Approves Kiosk Funds

(Lamoine) - Lamoine voters approved funding for three kiosk style signs (see picture) to be constructed at the town's three park areas. The Parks Commission proposed the idea in the budget, but the budget committee only recommended one sign. An amendment on the floor of town meeting restored funding for all three. It's not known when the materials will be ordered for the signs the will be installed at Lamoine Beach, Bloomfield Park and Marlboro Beach some time in 2006.



Dog Officers Certified, Deputy has Emergency Phone

(Lamoine) — Both of Lamoine's Animal Control Officers received state certification late last year. Deputy John Karst has added a cell phone number for folks to call with animal emergencies (460-9694). John says he plans to produce a report on a quarterly basis to the Selectmen on animal control activity. Karst and Harry Lounder have handled several complaints in the past 9-months, mostly dogs running at large.

Selectmen Assign New Road Names

(Lamoine) — Lamoine has three new road names, while a fourth name has been challenged. Selectmen named **Dorothy’s Lane** which is a short spur off Misty Way in the Marlboro Mist II subdivision. **Cardinal Drive** leads off Mud Creek Road, and **Memory Lane** is located off Lamoine Beach Road, just past the Mill Road intersection.

Selectmen also assigned the name **Lobster Lane** to the section of Seal Point Road that leads to the lobster pound. One of the property owners along that road has objected to the name, and Selectmen may reconsider their vote in early April. Originally the entire area was assigned Seal Point Road, but a change in configuration prompted the suggested name change.

Several roads serving the Pine Grove Estates Subdivision will be names in April.

Town Sells Foreclosed Trailer

(Lamoine) — Selectmen have entered an installment agreement, selling a mobile home on Francis Drive to the owner of the land on which it sits. The home, abandoned as a residence several years ago, belonged to Lawrence Robbins, now of Sullivan. He did not pay the 2003/04 taxes or any subsequent tax bill, having moved out of the now uninhabitable structure. The trailer is full of personal property, and landowner Wesley Bentivoglio has agreed to purchase the it for \$640, the amount of back taxes, fees and interest. When the final payment is received Selectmen will issue a quit-claim deed to Bentivoglio.

Chipping, Sweeping, & Grading –Oh My!

(Lamoine) — May and June could be busy months for contractors on town roads. Selectmen in late March were working on specifications for three cleanup projects.

Wind storms in the past few years brought down numerous limbs, branches and tree trunks that litter many roadsides. Road Commissioner Dennis Ford says they really need to be cleaned up, and bids are due in early May for that project.

The annual sweeping of sand from the town roads is also out to bid, with the estimates from contractors due on April 20th.

Ford has also suggested that several roads have shoulders shaped with a grader. Winter sand buildup over the past several years have created berms that prevent water from properly running into the ditches. Bid specifications for those roads were being drawn up at the end of March for submission to the Selectmen prior to going to bid. People interested in obtaining fill from the project are urged to keep posted with the town office for permission forms.

All bid documents will be posted on the town’s website (www.lamoine-me.gov). The town has budgeted money for all the projects.



Scary Route to School
Tina Weaver and family walk home from school along Lamoine Beach Road, sharing it with a dump truck.

Salt Shed Idea Put On Hold For Now

(Lamoine) — Selectmen have put discussion of a town owned salt/sand shed on the back burner for this year after doing research and coming back with potentially astronomical costs. It was estimated a shed that would accommodate the salt and sand used on local roads could cost nearly \$300,000.

Nankervis Trucking is responsible for storing salt and sand under the snow plowing contract that has one more season to run. When the next contract is bid out, Selectmen will likely ask for two prices, one where the contractor provides for storage and one where the town owns a storage building. If the difference is substantial enough, it might prove to be cost effective for the town to erect a salt/sand shed.

Recycling Rate Holds Steady

(Lamoine) — Lamoine residents recycled 34.7% of their waste in 2005 according to the latest report filed with the State Planning Office. The rate is slightly higher (2.3%) than the 2004 rate of 32.4%.

The figures are based on the amount of trash sent to the incinerator in Orrington, the materials recycled through the Maine Resource Recovery Association, the estimated amount of cardboard recycling, and items that come in and out of the swap shop.

Visitors Sought

(Ellsworth) — Faith in Action is looking for volunteers to visit elderly and disabled people in their homes. Director Jo Cooper (Lamoine’s Selectman Chair) says her organization desperately needs volunteers to visit lonely people on a regular basis, as well as drivers who can take people to appointments, shopping or even the library. Training is planned for Friday, April 21st at St. Dunstan’s Church in Ellsworth. People should register by calling 664-6016 by April 19th.

Exercise Classes On Wednesdays
(Lamoine) - Health Link, Maine Coast Memorial Hospital, is holding an enhanced strength training exercise program each Wednesday morning at 8:30 at the Lamoine Baptist Church. Call Iris Simon at 667-2474 or 667-5094. Space is limited and pre-registration is required.

Town To Explore Safe Route To School Grant

(Lamoine) — “You can almost set your watch by the trucks”. That’s how Tina Weaver of Bear Point Way describes her journey to school and back each day as she and her children accompany their oldest sister on the daily trek. The rebuilt section of Route 184 has a much wider shoulder than before, but there are no sidewalks from Shore Road to the school, except for one in front of the portable classroom.

Selectmen may apply for a grant from the State Department of Transportation to build sidewalks along that stretch, which serves as a major route of travel for large trucks going to and from the several gravel pits down the road. The Safe Routes to School program utilizes state and federal funds for such projects. According to the program administrator many communities are applying for grants this year, and funding is limited.

Selectmen have also requested that shoulders on Route 184 be widened out to accommodate bicycle traffic on the sections that were not rebuilt. Shoulders on Douglas Highway and Lamoine Beach Road are extremely narrow and may have been a contributing factor in last June’s accident that killed 14-year old Jina Haslam. The work list has been submitted to MDOT.

Town Working With Cell Tower Company

(Lamoine) - Cellular telephone users are usually out of luck in parts of East Lamoine. The signal strength is virtually non-existent at times. The town has been contacted by a Massachusetts based tower company about leasing land near the closed landfill for a possible tower site.

Town officials provided GPS coordinates to the company which may bring in a crane sometime this spring to conduct a signal test. The area by the landfill is one of the higher points in town. In addition to cell phone service, the tower could be attractive to wireless Internet companies which could possibly solve some of the high speed internet issues in parts of town not served by the Cable TV system. Any tower lease would require town meeting approval and permits from the Planning Board.

The Lamoine Quarterly

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Lamoine's Oldest Resident
Jennie Neleski holds the Boston Post Cane after receiving it in March.

(Ellsworth) — At 97 years old, Jennie Neleski is Lamoine's oldest citizen. Selectman Chair Jo Cooper presented Mrs. Neleski with the *Boston Post* Cane at a ceremony on March 1st at the Courtland Living Center in Ellsworth.

The tradition of the cane was started as a publicity stunt by the now defunct *Boston Post* newspaper in 1909. Made of ebony and 14 kt. gold, 431 canes were distributed to towns in Maine, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire with instructions to award them to the oldest resident in town.

The event was well attended by Mrs. Neleski's family, including her son Bill and his wife Enid, her granddaughter Patti Haslam, and great grandson Ben. Many other neighbors at the Courtland facility were also on hand for the presentation and refreshments.

Vital Statistics

(Lamoine) - New Lamoine residents born since the January *Lamoine Quarterly* include **Abigail Grace Kelley**, born in Bangor on December 29, 2005. **Eric Gonzales Banda** was born December 31, 2005 in Ellsworth. **Parker Gregory Watts** was born on December 14, 2005 in Blue Hill, and **Gage Frederick Graham** was born on February 2, 2006 in Blue Hill. A new Lamoine resident to be was born on March 27th in Singapore. **Betta Cajnte-Cahn** is the daughter of Fred and Aija Cahn. Fred, a long time Lamoiner, moved to Singapore recently to fly planes for Singapore Airlines.

Just one marriage since the last edition. **Ann Stapleton and Steve Leeman** were married on December 30th in Lamoine. They reside on Walker Road.

We lost three residents in the last quarter. **James Michielli** of Mud Creek Road died on January 6, 2006. He was a retired college educator. **Ruth "Betty" Ashmore** of Clamshell Alley died on February 6, 2006, less than a month after Selectmen sent her a congratulations on her 75th birthday. Betty was one of the original crew members of



Welcome Aboard Betta
Fredi Cahn e-mailed this picture of his daughter, just hours old!

Lamoine's Cheering Team Wins 6th State Crown

(Lamoine) — For a 6th consecutive year Lamoine's cheering squad has won the first place trophy in the mixed division at the Middle School Cheering Championship. Coach Cori-Lynn Noddin-Martin's (she got married this year) squad wowed the crowd again with near perfect formations, spectacular tumblers and a highly entertaining performance. Lamoine's final score was the second highest of all divisions, including the large Class "A" school competitors.

There was plenty of drama this year before the state competition. Lamoine's



Championship Form
The 2006 edition of the Lamoine Cheering Squad finished atop the state at Bangor Auditorium on March 11th



Not On My Watch!
Center Gavin Young blocks a shot from a Surry player in the Union 92 Championship.

(Lamoine) — The Lamoine boy's basketball squad finished a perfect season by winning the Union 92 Championship Game against Surry at Ellsworth High school on February 9th. Surry gave the boys a good run in the 1st half before Lamoine, led by Zach Emeigh and Gavin Young pulled away to win.

Lamoine's girls came up a little short in their attempt to win a championship, but gave undefeated Trenton a good run in the title game. Lily Cooper and Mackenzie Curtis led Lamoine's squad.

Jina's Gym Drive Continues

(Lamoine) — The fund raising drive for a new gym in Lamoine continues to enjoy good success. As of the end of March the Jina's Gym Fund stood at \$108,878. Events held in 2006 include a pro-wrestling show at Ellsworth High School and the annual Dessert Cabaret at the Lamoine School. Upcoming events include a pet photo contest, a dance at the Elks Club, and a concert at Lamoine State Park.

The family of Jina Haslam, who was killed in an accident last summer has show incredible dedication in the effort to build a gym in her memory. More information about the effort is available at www.jinasgym.org.

Garden Club To Replace Dead Tree

(Lamoine) — The Ellsworth Garden Club plans to plant a Patriotic Tree at the Lamoine Town Hall in the coming weeks. The tree will replace a flowering crab that has died. Jay Barnes of the Garden Club said they were searching for a place for a tree, and the Town Hall seemed like the perfect choice, as voting takes place there. The tree will bloom in the spring with vibrant pink blossoms. A tree in that location is important beyond the aesthetic value. The tree is referenced in directions to a buried time capsule placed on the North side of the Town Hall in 1995.



Lunch Time for Turkeys
Spotted outside Marilyn Lockhart's home on Douglas Highway, a flock of turkeys flees the photographer. Wildlife officials say turkey flocks have become a hazard to drivers.

DVD's Available
If you wish to see programming on Lamoine CTV, DVD copies can be purchased for \$10 each (VCR copies cost \$25). Copies of the State Cheering Competition sold briskly. Contact the Lamoine Town Hall to order copies. We can generally accommodate orders within a day's time.

8th Grade Auction Set for May 6th

(Lamoine) — The Lamoine 8th Grade will hold its annual auction on Saturday, May 6, 2006. Bidding will begin at 10AM, the preview and silent auction begin at 9AM in the school gym.

Proceeds from the auction will help the 8th graders pay for their class trip which is generally taken in June. The auction typically raises over \$2,000. Many area merchants have donated goods and services to the auction. Town Administrative Assistant Stu Marckoon will serve as auctioneer.

April 2006 Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1-Flattop 5K 9AM @ School
2-Daylight Saving Time Begins (2AM)	3-7PM Planning Board 7PM School Committee	4	5-7PM Assessors	6-7PM Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept	7	8-Parks Commission Workshop (Time/Location TBA)
9	10	11	12-7PM Conservation Commission	13-7PM Fire Dept	14	15
16-Easter Sunday	17-Town Office Closed, Patriots' Day	18	19	20-7PM Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept	21	22
23	24	25-7PM Long Range Planning	26	27-7PM Fire Dept	28	29
30	Meeting Times are subject to change—Consult the Town Website for Updates					

May 2006 Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1-7PM School Committee	2-7PM Planning Board	3-7PM Assessors	4-7PM Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept.	5	6-9AM 8th Grade Auction@ School
7	8	9	10-7PM Conservation Commission	11-7PM Fire Dept	12	13-8:30 AM Litter Cleanup Meet @ Town Hall
14-Mother's Day	15	16	17	18-7PM Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept	19	20
21	22	23-7PM Long Range Planning Committee	24	25-7PM Fire Dept.	26	27
28	29-Memorial Day, Office Closed	30	31			

June 2006 Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1-7PM Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept.	2	3
4	5-7PM School Committee	6-7PM Planning Board	7-7PM Assessors	8-7PM Fire Dept.	9	10
11	12	13	14-7PM Conservation Commission	15-7PM Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept.	16	17
18-Father's Day	19	20	21	22-7PM Fire Dept.	23	24
25	26	27-7PM Long Range Planning	28	29-7PM Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept.	30-Fiscal Year Ends	

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April 2006

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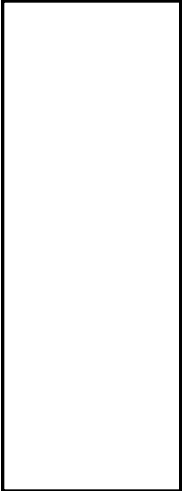
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Town of Lamoine
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